

**REMARKS**

The applicant has carefully considered the official action dated January 11, 2005, and the references it cites. In the official action, claims 11-30 were allowed. Accordingly, claims 11-30 are not discussed further herein. The official action rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. In addition, claims 5-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,715,060 ("Arnold et al."). By way of this response, claims 1 and 5 have been amended to clarify the protection sought. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

As an initial matter, the applicant wishes to address the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The applicant has amended claim 1 to recite managing a pendency status of a memory resource to prevent a data hazard based on an order of a first instruction response and a second instruction response. As is made clear in claim 1, a data hazard is prevented by managing a pendency status associated with a memory resource. For example, as described at page 7, line 29 through page 8, line 13 in the present application, a data hazard may be prevented by storing or tracking logical values in a data structure based on the pendency status of a memory resource. As is further made clear in claim 1, the pendency status is managed based on an order of first and second instruction responses. For example, as described at page 8, line 23 through page 9, line 10 in the present application, tracking bits that include a valid or "V" bit and an overflow valid bit or "OV" bit may be used to manage the pendency status of a memory resource. In particular, a logical value of "1" may be stored in the "V" bit when a memory resource is pending based on a first instruction and a logical value of "1" may be stored in the "OV" bit when a second instruction requests access to the memory resource while the memory resource is pending based on the first instruction. For at

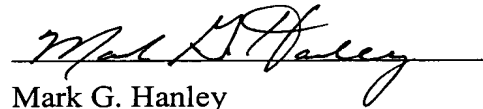
least the foregoing reasons, the applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to independent claim 1 have overcome the indefiniteness rejections of claim 1 and respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections.

The official action also rejected independent claim 5 as indefinite. In particular, the official action contends that it is not clear whether the first and second instructions require access to the same memory location in the memory resource. Also, the official action contends that it is not clear what the difference is between the second and third tracking information. The applicant has amended claim 5 to recite a memory location to indicate that the first and second instructions require access to the same memory location. In addition, the applicant respectfully submits that adequate support for “second and third tracking information” is provided in the specification, and that it would be clear to one of ordinary skill in the art that each of the second and third tracking information may, for example, include the “OV” bit and a tagged outstanding bit “TO,” respectively (page 9, lines 7-14). Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to independent claim 5 have overcome the indefiniteness rejections of claim 5 and respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections.

Turning to the art rejections, the applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 5, as amended, is allowable over the art of record. The official action contends that claim 5 is anticipated by Arnold et al. However, Arnold et al. fail to teach or suggest managing access to a memory location by changing first, second and third tracking information in one of a plurality of sequences based on an order of receipt of a first instruction response and a second instruction response, as recited in independent claim 5. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 5 and claims 6-10 dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining matters that the examiner would like to discuss, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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